

# Gramin Shiksha Kendra

- Project in Sawai Madhopur, Rajasthan.
- Asha has supported teacher and staff salaries, library and TLM over the last 5 years for 2 schools at Jaganpura and Bodal
- GSK started in 2003; today have 4 schools and ~450 children
- Children make a daily newspaper, bal panchayat etc.
- Experienced staff, most have master's degrees in education.
- School operations are child-centric
- Typical school day: 8a-11.30a (class), 11.30a-12.30p (lunch), 12.30p-2.30p (class), 2.30p-5.30p (evaluation and planning for next day), 5.30p-6.30p (interaction with villagers).

# Uday Pathshalas

**UDAY Pathshala, Jaganpura:** Started on 15<sup>th</sup> June 2004, with 45 children (27 Boys, 18 girls), three teachers and a support staff on a land given by community in a thatched temporary structure. At present **182 children (87 boys, 95 girls)**, 10 teachers and one support staff, the community has donated the land for the school, 8 classrooms constructed, tap water, electricity connections, a big playground, separate toilets for boys and girls.

**UDAY Pathshala, Bodal:** Started on 1<sup>st</sup> July 2006 with 74 children (26 boys, 38 girls) and 3 teachers under a *peepal* tree. At present **140 children (72 boys, 68 girls)**, 8 teachers, on school's own land, 8 classrooms and two extra rooms, well, hand pump and a big playground, separate toilets for boys and girls.

**Uday Pathshala, Sawai Madhopur:** A self sustaining school for urban middle class. Started on 16<sup>th</sup> July 2007 with **40 children (18 boys, 22 girls)** and two teachers in a rented building.

**Uday Pathshala, Katar-Faria:** Started on 1<sup>st</sup> July 2009 with **120 children (59 boys and 61 girls)** on a land donated by community. At present running in 6 thatched classrooms, has a big playground. The school has a toilet and a hand pump.

# Updates

- Teacher training workshop from May 16- Jun 30. Durga and Vishnu conducted the workshop this year.
- Room to Read has sanctioned 1000 books for 2 schools each.
- Bodal construction is complete
- New creative journal, Morange, being published by the children every month.
- 8 Morange articles and poems were published in Chakmak, a popular kids' magazine by Eklavya
- Edited by Prabhat, a locally accomplished poet, who is also a part-time teacher at GSK

# Infrastructure/Schools

- New school at Faria is doing well, have experienced and motivated teachers
- Teachers attended a workshop by Room to Read in December
- A real estate company has donated 4 acres of land for a new Uday school
- Local IT commissioner is trying to generate 4-5 lakh rupees.
- SDTT proposal is on hold because of RTE bill.

# Site visit

- Zankhana, Vibha's employee in India, visited GSK in December 2009.
- Most of the old staff who had left during the turbulent funding times in previous years have now returned with more stable funding.
- Uday Jaganpura has got the affiliation from the Rajasthan Education Board this year.
- Teachers have weekly workshops on Saturdays. GSK also had quarterly workshops in October and December, the second one held at the XISS (Xavier Institute of Social Services) campus of Ranchi.
- The new school at Faria now has 100 children and 4 teachers. The school caters to 3 villages at the edge of the Ranthambore sanctuary. Different villages donated 20 bighas (~8 acres, ~30k sqm) of land for the school campus. It currently runs in thatched structures built by the villagers similar to how the schools at Jaganpura and Bodal started.

# Site visit notes

- In all 3 schools, children have started playing cricket and hockey with all the donated sports equipments.
- The 5th and 6th editions of Morange, the children's magazine, has come out.
- With the new facilities at Bodal, many more children have joined this year from govt schools, and the children enjoy the new way of learning: 'dimag me baith jata hai' (concepts are grasped easier).

# Outreach Program (2010-11)

- Vision: To support, strengthen and popularize the idea of a child-centric innovative education system through endeavors of quality in education so that communities start demanding the same from the existing education providing structures.
- Mission: In the coming 5 years 100 existing schools in Sawai Madhopur and Khandar blocks provide good quality education to children

# Outreach Plan (2010-11)

- Enhance responsibility of Uday Jaganpura and Bodal to resource centers:
- Teacher support for attitudinal issues, behavior patterns and approach. Link up with ISABS.
- Develop a resource group that will be available on demand as a service: multi-level teaching, class room processes, TLM, counseling and class management.
- TLM: Make all TLM evolved, tried, tested and demonstrated at Uday to all schools in the area.
- Teach and Learn Workshops (TLW): for language, math, science and social science. Conduct participatory workshops for teachers from govt and private schools. All teachers will be both learners and resource persons.
- Education admin: working with village communities to increase enrolment of girls, reduce drop-outs after class 5 and 8, highlight importance of education in rural areas.



# Community Intervention (goals)

Communities made aware of the difference in classroom processes in the government schools and Uday Pathshalas like teaching methods, use of TLM, individual attention to children, multi-grade teaching methods, monitoring and evaluation

Communities made aware of difference in Children of the Uday Pathshalas and Government schools in terms of understanding of subject, knowledge, attitude, confidence

Communities made aware of difference in school atmosphere- communities have questions about not using of bells, prayers, uniforms,

Awareness about the inter relations in the school i.e. teacher- student relations, student-student relations, teacher- teacher relations and school community relations. What normally is and what is it in Uday Pathshala

Awareness about fine and performing art forms and sports as subjects in school education.

# Community Intervention (mode)

Distributing and discussing small booklets about the questions which people generally see and ask about Uday Pathshalas are like – why there is no uniform, no head teacher, no examination at the end of the year, no age wise distribution of class, no competition etc.

Direct interface with the community through community workers,

Exposure visits of different communities to the existing Uday Pathshalas.

Documentary films depicting the activities of the school

Expanding of the activities of theater group to different villages, organizing shows.

Formation of youth sports clubs and organizing sports meets regularly

Organizing small events at the resource schools regularly to involve communities.

# Funding scenario

- Overall budget ~ Rs. 54.1 lakhs
- Community Liaison\* ~ Rs 6.36 lakhs
- Support from Asha Austin ~ Rs. 10 lakhs
- Support from Vibha ~ Rs. 6.8 lakhs
- *Support from Yatra ~ Rs 2.65 lakhs*
- *Unsupported: ~ Rs 28 lakhs*
- *Have applied for funds from Edelgive: ~10 lakhs*
- *Support from Asha SV (2009-10): Rs 14.6 lakhs*